

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
FISH AND GAME COMMISSION  
FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR REGULATORY ACTION

Amend Sections 300 and 600  
Title 14, California Code of Regulations  
Re: Seasons and Bag Limits for Upland Game Birds, and Licensed Game Birds

- |      |  |                 |
|------|--|-----------------|
| I.   | Date of Initial Statement of Reasons:      | March 29, 2004  |
| II.  | Date of Pre-adoption Statement of Reasons: | July 7, 2004    |
| III. | Date of Final Statement of Reasons:        | August 19, 2004 |
| IV.  | Dates and Locations of Scheduled Hearings: |                 |
| (a)  | Notice Hearing:                            |                 |
|      | Date:                                      | May 5, 2004     |
|      | Location:                                  | San Diego       |
| (b)  | Discussion Hearing                         |                 |
|      | Date:                                      | June 15, 2004   |
|      | Location:                                  | Crescent City   |
| (c)  | Adoption Hearing:                          |                 |
|      | Date:                                      | August 6, 2004  |
|      | Location:                                  | Bridgeport      |

- ## V. Update:

The original proposal provided a series of ranges for permits for four sage grouse hunt zones. The modified proposal provides final permit quotas that are within respective ranges identified in the original proposal. Final permit quotas were determined following spring lek (strutting ground) counts of sage grouse within each hunt zone. Recommended permit quotas are as follows: East Lassen Zone, 125 two-bird permits; Central Lassen Zone, 50 two-bird permits; North Mono Zone, 20 one-bird permits; South Mono Zone, 35 one-bird permits.

At the Adoption Hearing, the Commission adopted the Department's proposals for changes to Sections 300 and 600.

- VI. Summary of Primary Considerations Raised in Support of or Opposition to the Proposed Actions and Reasons for Rejecting those considerations:

Responses to public comments were included in the Pre-adoption Statement of Reasons. Additional responses are provided below.

State of California  
The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Responses to Public Recommendations for Changes in the  
2004-07 Game Bird Hunting Regulations Received by the  
Fish and Game Commission

**Section 300 – Upland Game Birds**

Description of Proposed Action by Public:

Change the bag limit for the spring turkey season from three to one; require hunters to obtain turkey tags.

Proposal Source:

Kenneth Nelson, Chairman  
Plumas County Board of Supervisors  
January 6, 2004 (letter)

Recommendation:

Reject

Analysis:

The Department does not have information indicating that there is an insufficient ratio of gobblers to breed available hens in any turkey population in California, including the small population in Plumas County. It is unlikely that restricting the take to one gobbler would cause a significant increase in turkey numbers. Regarding the proposal to require hunters to obtain turkey tags, this would likely be unpopular with many turkey hunters, and would be of questionable benefit.

State of California  
The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Responses to Public Recommendations for Changes in the  
2004-07 Game Bird Hunting Regulations Received by the  
Fish and Game Commission

**Section 300 – Upland Game Birds**

Description of Proposed Action by Public:

Do not allow dove hunting during their nesting season, the use of lead shot, hunting before sunrise, or hunting of turkeys by archers for two additional weeks.

Proposal Source:

Renee Snyder  
Northridge, CA  
July 21, 2004 (letter)

Shelly Hildebrand  
Shell Beach, CA  
July 27, 2004 (letter)

Recommendation:

Reject

Analysis:

Hunting for upland game species legally begins one-half hour before sunrise. This has been the case for many years, and no adverse effects on wildlife populations have been documented, since sufficient light exists at that time to identify legal species. Only a small percentage of doves are still nesting in September, when the dove hunting season opens, and investigations have shown that there were no significant differences in survival rates of nestling doves between areas that allow hunting and those that do not. The use of lead shot for the take of resident game birds has not been shown to have a substantial effect on populations of nontarget species in California. Adding an additional two weeks to the spring turkey season for archers, when only gobblers can be taken, is not expected to result in the removal of a significant number of additional turkeys from the population.

State of California  
The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Responses to Public Recommendations for Changes in the  
2004-07 Game Bird Hunting Regulations Received by the  
Fish and Game Commission

**Section 300 – Upland Game Birds**

Description of Proposed Action by Public:

Reject all proposed regulations regarding hunting of game birds.

Proposal Source:

Tom Spaulding  
Salinas, CA  
July 28, 2004 (letter)

Frank Calvert  
San Luis Obispo, CA  
July, 2004 (letter)

Amy Elderman  
Los Gatos, CA  
July 23, 2004 (letter)

Ginny Whitmere  
Los Altos, CA  
July 27, 2004 (letter)

Recommendation:

Reject

Analysis:

The Department believes that the proposed regulation changes will provide appropriate hunting opportunity, while protecting resident game bird populations.

VII. Location and Index of Rulemaking File:

A rulemaking file with attached file index is maintained at:  
California Fish and Game Commission  
1416 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

VIII. Location of Department files:

Department of Fish and Game  
1416 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

IX. Description of Reasonable Alternatives to Regulatory Action:

(a) Alternatives to Regulatory Action:

No alternatives were identified.

(b) No change Alternative:

1. Permit Ranges for Sage Grouse

The No Change Alternative was considered and found to be inadequate because it would not allow the Department to adjust the number of permits based on the status of the population, which could result in over-harvest or in unnecessary reduction of hunting opportunity.

2. Change in Zone Boundary for South Mono and Inyo Sage Grouse Hunt Zone

The No Change Alternative was considered and found to be inadequate because it would continue to allow sage grouse to be taken in areas of sparse sage grouse populations and would continue to prevent hunting in the area with the largest population.

3. Increased Archery Season Length for Wild Turkeys

The No Change Alternative was considered and found to be inadequate because it would not provide the increase in hunter opportunity, with relatively little change in turkey harvest, that would result from this regulation change.

4. Amend Licensed Game Bird Club Regulations to Eliminate Outdated Reporting Information

The No Change Alternative was considered and found to be inadequate because existing wording requires that shooting records be sent to an address that is no longer appropriate. Proposed wording eliminates a specific mailing address. Proposed wording also eliminates the mailing address and telephone number of the License and revenue Branch, which is unnecessary in regulatory language.

- (c) Consideration of Alternatives:  
In view of information currently possessed, no reasonable alternative considered would be more effective in carrying out the purposes for which the regulation is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to the affected private persons than the proposed regulation.

X. Impact of Regulatory Action:

The potential for significant statewide adverse economic impacts that might result from the proposed regulatory action has been assessed, and the following determinations relative to the required statutory categories have been made:

- (a) Significant Statewide Adverse Economic Impact Directly Affecting Businesses, Including the Ability of California Businesses to Compete with Businesses in Other States:

The proposed action will not have a significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states. The proposed regulation change is sufficiently minor that there would be no significant economic impact to businesses.

- (b) Impact on the Creation or Elimination of Jobs Within the State, the Creation of New Businesses or the Elimination of Existing Businesses, or the Expansion of Businesses in California:

None

- (c) Cost Impacts on a Representative Private Person or Business:

The agency is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

- (d) Costs or Savings to State Agencies or Costs/Savings in Federal Funding to the State:

None.

- (e) Nondiscretionary Costs/Savings to Local Agencies:

None.

- (f) Programs mandated on Local Agencies or School Districts:

None.

- (g) Costs Imposed on Any Local Agency or School District that is Required to be Reimbursed Under Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4.

None.

- (h) Effect on Housing Costs:

None.

## Updated Informative Digest/Policy Statement Overview

### 1. Permit Ranges for Sage Grouse

Existing regulations [Section 300(a)(1)(D)(4)] allow 100 two-bird permits for the East Lassen Zone, 40 two-bird permits for the Central Lassen Zone, 10 one-bird permits for the North Mono Zone, and 25 one-bird permits for the South Mono and Inyo Zone. Under the current regulatory cycle, the Fish and Game Commission notice hearing date for sage grouse regulation changes occurs in May. However, the final sage grouse population survey results are not available until after the date that the Department must submit proposed regulation changes to the Commission. The Department proposed a range of maximum and minimum hunting permit numbers to the Commission, with the provision that the actual number of permits recommended for each hunt will be based on strutting ground counts conducted in April.

The originally proposed ranges were 10 to 375 permits for the East Lassen Zone, 10 to 175 permits for the Central Lassen Zone, 10 to 100 permits for the North Mono Zone, and 10 to 100 permits for the South Mono Zone. **The final permit quotas were determined following spring lek counts of sage grouse within each hunt zone. Recommended permit quotas are as follows: East Lassen Zone, 125; Central Lassen Zone, 50; North Mono Zone, 20; and South Mono Zone, 35.**

### 2. Change in Zone Boundary for South Mono and Inyo Sage Grouse Hunt Zone

The existing boundary for this zone [Section 300(a)(1)(D)(3)(d)] results in hunting being restricted to areas of lower sage grouse populations. The proposed zone changes would close areas with sparse sage grouse populations, and focus hunting where most sage grouse occur. Since a permit system is used, only a limited number of birds can be taken.

### 3. Increased Archery Season Length for Wild Turkeys

The existing archery spring hunting season for turkeys [Section 300(a)(2)(G)(1)(b)] opens on the last Saturday in March, extending for 37 days. Archery hunters have requested an additional two weeks following the end of the existing season, when only archery equipment could be used. The Department believes that this additional archery season would provide more hunting opportunity, yet would result in only a small number of additional gobblers being taken.

### 4. Amend Licensed Game Bird Club Regulations to Eliminate Outdated Reporting Information



Existing wording in Section 600(a)(7) (Shooting Records Maintenance) requires that forms showing daily and monthly numbers of each species of birds released and taken on Licensed Game Bird Clubs be sent to a specific address that is no longer appropriate. Proposed wording states that these records shall be sent to an address to be determined by the Department. Existing wording also includes a mailing address and telephone number for the License and Revenue Branch in Section 600(a)(1) (Application Form). Proposed wording deletes this information, which is unnecessary in regulatory language.

The Commission adopted the regulations as proposed by the Department at the adoption hearing.

## ADDENDUM TO FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

### Section 300 – Upland Game Birds

#### Description of Proposed Action by Public:

Change the timing of the spring turkey season for Plumas County; change the bag limit for the spring turkey season from three to one; require hunters to obtain turkey tags.

#### Proposal Source:

Kenneth Nelson, Chairman  
Plumas County Board of Supervisors  
January 6, 2004 (letter)

#### Recommendation:

Reject

#### Analysis

During the spring turkey hunting season, only bearded turkeys, the vast majority of which are gobblers (males), may be taken by hunters. In order for the current spring hunting season to foster a low reproductive rate, as suggested by Mr. Nelson, the resulting ratio (post-season) of gobblers to hens would have to be so low that a significant percentage of hens were laying unfertilized eggs. It is well documented that a single gobbler is capable of fertilizing numerous hens. The Department has no information indicating that there is an insufficient ratio of gobblers to breed available hens in any turkey population in California, including the small population in Plumas County. Similarly, it is unlikely that restricting the take to one gobbler would cause a significant increase in turkey numbers.

Regarding the proposal to require hunters to obtain turkey tags, this likely would be unpopular with many turkey hunters, and would be of questionable benefit. Information that the Department has to date indicates that it is unlikely that habitat improvement or other projects could be accomplished on a scale sufficient to substantially increase turkey populations, with the level of funding expected from tag revenue.

Section 300, Title 14, CCR, is amended to read:

**300. UPLAND GAME BIRDS.**

**(a) Resident Upland Game Birds**

**(1) General Seasons: Shotgun; Crossbow; and Pistol/Revolver for Blue/Ruffed Grouse Only; Bag and Possession Limits and Open Areas**

(see Authorized Methods of Take, Section 311)

Species	1. Seasons	2. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
<b>(A) Pheasants</b>	The second Saturday in November extending for 44 consecutive days	Bag Limit: 2 males per day for the first 2 days of the season; 3 males per day after the first two days of the season  Possession Limit: double the daily bag limit
3. Area:	Statewide	

Species	1. Seasons	2. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
<p><b>(B) Quail</b> [including California (valley) quail, mountain quail, and Gambel's (desert) quail]</p> <p>Mountain Quail only:</p> <p>All species:</p> <p>All species:</p> <p>All species:</p>	<p>See area zone descriptions for details</p> <p>a. <b>Early Mountain Quail Season (Zone A)</b> - The second Saturday in September extending through the Friday prior to the third Saturday in October</p> <p><b>General Quail Season (Zone A)</b> - The third Saturday in October extending through the last Sunday in January</p> <p>b. <b>Early Coastal Season (Zone B)</b> - The last Saturday in September extending through the last Sunday in January</p> <p>c. <b>Balance of the State Season (Zone C)</b> - The third Saturday in October extending through the last Sunday in January</p>	<p>Bag Limit: 10 quail in any combination of species per day</p> <p>Possession Limit: double the daily bag limit</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>QUAIL HUNTING ZONE AREA DESCRIPTIONS</b></p> <p>3. Area Zone Descriptions:</p> <p>a. <b>Zone A:</b> The early mountain quail season hunting zone includes the counties of Alpine, Butte, Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Inyo, Lassen, Modoc, Mono, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Tehama, Trinity, and those portions of Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado, Fresno, Madera, Mariposa, Nevada, Placer, Tuolumne, Tulare, and Yuba counties lying east of the western boundary of the national forests.</p> <p>b. <b>Zone B:</b> The early coastal quail season (all species) hunting zone includes the counties of Marin, Napa, Solano, Sonoma, Lake, and Mendocino.</p> <p>c. <b>Zone C:</b> The balance of the state season (all species) hunting zone includes the remaining land area not included in Zone B (the counties of Marin, Napa, Solano, Sonoma, Lake, and Mendocino).</p>		

Species	1. Seasons	2. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
<b>(C) Chukar (Red-Legged Partridges)</b>	The third Saturday in October through the last Sunday in January	Bag Limit: 6 chukar per day  Possession Limit: double the daily bag limit
3. Area: Statewide		

Species	1. Seasons	2. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
<b>(D) Sage Grouse</b>	The second Saturday in September extending for two consecutive days	See area open zone descriptions (Section 300(a)(1)(D)3.)  <b>East Lassen and Central Lassen zones:</b> Bag Limit: 2 sage grouse per day  Possession Limit: 2 sage grouse per season  <b>North Mono and South Mono and Inyo zones:</b> Bag Limit: 1 sage grouse per day  Possession Limit: 1 sage grouse per season

## SAGE GROUSE HUNTING ZONE DESCRIPTIONS AND PERMIT PROCESS

### 3. Area Open Zone Descriptions:

#### a. **East Lassen Zone:**

That portion of Lassen County beginning at the intersection of Highway 395 and County Road 502 in the town of Ravendale; north and east on County Road 502 to County Road 526 (Buckhorn Road); east on County Road 526 to the Nevada state line; south along the Nevada state line to its intersection with County Road 320 (Wendel-Flanigan Road); northwest on County Road 320 to its intersection with Highway 395 between Wendel and Litchfield north on Highway 395 to the point of beginning.

#### b. **Central Lassen Zone:**

That portion of Lassen County beginning at the intersection of Highway 139 and County Road 513 (Termo-Grasshopper Road); east on County Road 513 to its intersection with County Road 523 (Westside Road); north on County Road 523 to its intersection with County Road 525 (Brockman Road); east on County Road 525 to its intersection with Highway 395; south on Highway 395 to its intersection with Highway 36 in the town of Johnstonville; west on Highway 36 to its intersection with Highway 139 in Susanville; north on Highway 139 to the point of beginning.

#### c. **North Mono Zone:**

That portion on Mono county beginning at the intersection of Highway 182 and the California-Nevada state line; south and east along the California-Nevada state line to Highway 167; west along Highway 167 to Highway 395; north along Highway 395 to Highway 182 at Bridgeport; north along Highway 182 to the point of beginning.

#### d. **South Mono and Inyo Zone:**

~~That portion of Mono and Inyo counties beginning at the intersection of Highway 167 and the California-Nevada state line; south and east along the California-Nevada state line to the second crossing of Highway 266; west along Highway 266 to Highway 168; south and west along Highway 168 to Highway 395; north along Highway 395 to Highway 167; east along Highway 167 to the point of beginning.~~

**The following area within this open zone is closed to hunting sage grouse:**

~~That portion of Mono County beginning at the intersection of U.S. Highway 395 and Benton Crossing Road; north and east along Benton Crossing Road to State Highway 120; north and east on State Highway 120 to U.S. Highway 6; south on U.S. Highway 6 to U.S. Highway 395; north and west on U.S. Highway 395 to the point of beginning.~~

That portion of Mono County beginning at the intersection of U.S. Highway 6 and U.S. Highway 395; north along U.S. Highway 6 to the intersection of U.S. Highway 120; west along U.S. Highway 120 to the Intersection of the Benton Crossing Road; west along Benton Crossing Road to the intersection of Owens River Road;

west along Owens River Road to the intersection of U.S. Highway 395; south along U.S. Highway 395 to the point of beginning.

**No open season in the balance of the state not included in the above open zones.**

4. Number of Permits:

- a. **East Lassen Zone:** ~~400~~125 permits
- b. **Central Lassen Zone:** ~~40~~50 permits
- c. **North Mono Zone:** ~~40~~20 permits
- d. **South Mono and Inyo Zone:** ~~25~~35 permits

5. Permit Process:

The free sage grouse hunting permits shall be issued by public drawing. All applicants shall apply either on a postcard or through the Internet at the License and Revenue Branch Home Page at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/lrb> and select sage grouse drawing. All applicants must provide their name, address, zip code, hunting license number, and the zone they wish to hunt. Applicants shall submit only one drawing application for either the East Lassen Zone, Central Lassen Zone, North Mono Zone, or the South Mono and Inyo Zone. Up to four hunters may apply as a party. All hunters' names, addresses, and hunting license numbers must be included on the application. Postcard applications for all hunts shall be mailed to the Department of Fish and Game, License and Revenue Branch, 3211 S Street, Sacramento, California, 95816. Applications must be received before the close of the business day on the second Monday of August for all open zones (East Lassen Zone, Central Lassen Zone, North Mono Zone, or the South Mono and Inyo Zone). Successful applicants will be notified by mail prior to the opening date of the season. Permits are nontransferable. Any permits remaining after the drawing will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis and will be advertised by news release following each drawing. Applications for remaining permits shall be mailed to the above address with the same required information. Successful drawing applicants previously selected, or hunt party members, may not apply for remaining permits.

6. Falconry Only Permits:

Applicants desiring to use a sage grouse permit during the falconry-only season must declare upon the application that the permit is for falconry only.

Species	1. Seasons	2. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
<b>(E) Blue and Ruffed Grouse</b>	The second Saturday in September extending for 31 consecutive days	Bag Limit: 2 grouse per day  Bag Limit Makeup: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• up to 2 blue grouse</li> <li>• up to 2 ruffed grouse</li> <li>• or one of each</li> </ul> Possession Limit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• double the daily bag limit (4 grouse)</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>BLUE AND RUFFED GROUSE HUNTING ZONE DESCRIPTIONS</b></p> <p>3. Area Open Zone: The open hunting zone for blue and ruffed grouse includes the following counties: Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Del Norte, El Dorado, Fresno, Glenn, Humboldt, Inyo, Lake, Lassen, Madera, Mariposa, Mendocino, Modoc, Mono, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Tehama, Trinity, Tulare, Tuolumne, and Yuba. All other counties are closed to the taking of blue or ruffed grouse.</p>		



Species	1. Seasons	2. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
<b>(F) White-Tailed Ptarmigan</b>	The second Saturday in September extending for nine consecutive days	Bag Limit: 2 ptarmigan per day  Possession Limit: 2 per season
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PTARMIGAN HUNTING ZONE DESCRIPTIONS</b></p> <p>3. Area Open Zone: The open hunting zone for ptarmigan includes Alpine County and that portion of Mono County lying north and west of a line beginning at the intersection of Highway 203 and the Madera County line; east on Highway 203 to Highway 395; and north on Highway 395 to the Nevada state line.</p>		

Species	1. Seasons	2. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
<b>(G) Wild Turkeys</b>	a. <b>Fall Season</b> - The second Saturday in November extending for 16 consecutive days	Bag Limit: 1 either-sex turkey per day  Possession Limit: 1 per season
	b. <b>Spring Season</b> - The last Saturday in March extending for 37 consecutive days	Bag Limit: 1 bearded turkey per day  Possession Limit: 3 per season  (A bearded turkey is one having a beard visible through the breast feathers.)
<p>3. Area:</p> <p>a. <b>Fall Season:</b> All counties except San Diego County</p> <p>b. <b>Spring Season:</b> Statewide including State Game Refuge 1G, located in Tehama County</p>		

**(2) Archery Seasons, Bag and Possession Limits and Open Areas**

(see Authorized Methods of Take, sections 311 and 354)

Species	1. Seasons	2. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
<b>(A) Pheasants</b>	The second Saturday in November extending for 60 consecutive days	Bag Limit: 2 pheasants per day for the first 2 days of the season; 3 pheasants per day after the first two days of the season  Possession Limit: double the daily bag limit; the daily archery bag may contain not more than one female pheasant
3. Area:	Statewide	

Species	1. Seasons	2. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
<p><b>(B) Quail</b> (all species)</p> <p>Mountain Quail only:</p> <p>All species:</p> <p>All species:</p> <p>All species:</p>	<p>The third Saturday in August extending for 21 consecutive days and during the general seasons as follows:</p> <p>a. <b>Early Mountain Quail Season (Zone A)</b> - The second Saturday in September extending through the Friday prior to the third Saturday in October</p> <p><b>General Quail Season (Zone A)</b> - The third Saturday in October extending through the last Sunday in January</p> <p>b. <b>Early Coastal Season (Zone B)</b> - The last Saturday in September extending through the last Sunday in January</p> <p>c. <b>Balance of the State Season (Zone C)</b> - The third Saturday in October extending through the last Sunday in January</p>	<p>Bag Limit: 10 quail in any combination of species per day</p> <p>Possession Limit: double the daily bag limit</p>

3. Area: Statewide		
Species	1. Seasons	2. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
<b>(C) Chukar</b>	The third Saturday in August extending for 21 consecutive days and during the general season	Bag Limit: 6 chukar  Possession Limit: double the daily bag limit
3. Area: Statewide		
Species	1. Seasons	2. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
<b>(D) Sage Grouse</b>	The second Saturday in September extending for 2 consecutive days	See area open zone descriptions (Section 300(a)(1)(D)3.) <b>East Lassen and Central Lassen zones:</b> Bag Limit: 2 sage grouse per day  Possession Limit: 2 sage grouse per season  <b>North Mono and South Mono and Inyo zones:</b> Bag Limit: 1 sage grouse per day  Possession Limit: 1 sage grouse per season
3. Area: Open Zone: see open zone descriptions for details [Section 300(a)(1)(D)3], which include portions of Lassen, Mono, and Inyo counties. Hunting by free permit only; see permit process section for details.		

Species	1. Seasons	2. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
<b>(E) Blue and Ruffed Grouse</b>	The third Saturday in August extending for 21 consecutive days and during the general season from the second Saturday in September extending for 31 consecutive days	Bag Limit: 2 grouse per day Bag Limit Makeup: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• up to 2 blue grouse</li> <li>• up to 2 ruffed grouse</li> <li>• or one of each</li> </ul> Possession Limit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• double the daily bag limit (4 grouse)</li> </ul>
3. Area:	Open Zone: see open zone descriptions for details [Section 300(a)(1)(E)3], which include northern and eastern portions of the state	

Species	1. Seasons	2. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
<b>(F) White-Tailed Ptarmigan</b>	The second Saturday in September extending for nine consecutive days	Bag Limit: 2 ptarmigan per day  Possession Limit: 2 per season
3. Area:	Open Zone: see open zone descriptions for details [Section 300(a)(1)(F)3], which include portions of Alpine and Mono counties	

Species	1. Seasons	2. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
<b>(G) Wild Turkeys</b>	a. <b>Fall Season</b> - The second Saturday in November extending for 16 consecutive days	Bag Limit: 1 either-sex turkey per day  Possession Limit: 1 per season
	b. <b>Spring Season</b> - The last Saturday in March extending for <del>37</del> <u>51</u> consecutive days	Bag Limit: 1 bearded turkey per day  Possession Limit: 3 per season (A bearded turkey is one having a beard visible through the breast feathers.)
3. Area:  a. <b>Fall Season:</b> All counties except San Diego County  b. <b>Spring Season:</b> Statewide including State Game Refuge 1G, located in Tehama County		

### **(3) Falconry Seasons, Bag and Possession Limits and Open Areas**

(see Authorized Methods of Take, Section 311)

Species	1. Seasons	2. Daily Bag and Possession Limits and Hawking Hours
<b>(A) Pheasants</b> <b>(B) Quail</b> <b>(C) Chukar</b> <b>(D) Blue and Ruffed Grouse</b> <b>(E) White-Tailed Ptarmigan</b>	October 1 extending through the last day in February	Bag and Possession Limits: same as general season regulations by species. The daily falconry bag may contain birds of either sex.  Hawking hours are sunrise to sunset.
3. Area: See open zone descriptions for details on each species [Section 300(a)(1)]		

Species	1. Seasons	2. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
<b>(F) Sage Grouse</b>	The first Saturday in November extending for 60 consecutive days, and during the general season	<p>See area open zone descriptions (Section 300(a)(1)(D)3.)</p> <p><b>East Lassen and Central Lassen zones:</b> Bag Limit: 2 sage grouse per day</p> <p>Possession Limit: 2 sage grouse per season</p> <p><b>North Mono and South Mono and Inyo zones:</b> Bag Limit: 1 sage grouse per day</p> <p>Possession Limit: 1 sage grouse per season Hawking hours are sunrise to sunset.</p>
3. Area:	See open zone descriptions [Section 300(a)(1)(D)3]; hunting by free permit only; see permit process section for details [Section 300(a)(1)(D)5].	

Species	1. Seasons	2. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
<b>(G) Wild Turkeys</b>	a. <b>Fall Season</b> - The second Saturday in November extending for 16 consecutive days	Bag Limit: 1 either-sex turkey per day  Possession Limit: 1 per season
	b. <b>Spring Season</b> - The last Saturday in March extending for 37 consecutive days  Statewide including State Game Refuge 1G, located in Tehama County	Bag Limit: 1 bearded turkey per day  Possession Limit: 3 per season  (A bearded turkey is one having a beard visible through the breast feathers.)
3. Area:  a. <b>Fall Season:</b> All counties except San Diego County  b. <b>Spring Season:</b> Statewide including State Game Refuge 1G, located in Tehama County		



**(b) Migratory Upland Game Birds**

**(1) Shotgun, Archery, and Falconry Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits**

(see Authorized Methods of Take, Section 507)

Species	1. Seasons	2. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
<b>(A) Band-Tailed Pigeons</b>	<p>a. <b>Northern Zone</b> - The third Saturday in September extending for 9 consecutive days</p> <p>b. <b>Southern Zone</b> - The third Saturday in December extending for 9 consecutive days</p>	<p>Bag Limit: 2 band-tailed pigeons per day</p> <p>Possession Limit: double the daily bag limit</p>

**BAND-TAILED PIGEON HUNTING ZONE DESCRIPTIONS**

3. Area Open Zone Descriptions:

a. **Northern Zone:**

Includes the counties of Alpine, Butte, Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Lassen, Mendocino, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Tehama, and Trinity.

b. **Southern Zone:**

Includes the balance of the state not included in the northern zone described above.

Species	1. Seasons	2. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
<b>(B) Doves</b> (Mourning doves, white-winged doves, spotted doves, and ringed turtle doves)	<b>September 1 - 15</b> and from the second Saturday in November extending for an additional 45 days	<p>Bag Limit: Spotted doves and ringed turtle doves shall be included in the bag and possession limit set for the mourning doves and white-winged doves.</p> <p>10 doves per day in aggregate of the above listed dove</p> <p>Possession Limit: double the daily bag limit in aggregate of the above listed dove</p>
<p>3. Area:</p> <p>Note: There is no open hunting season on common ground-doves, ruddy ground-doves, and Inca doves.</p>	<p>Statewide for mourning doves.</p> <p>White-winged doves may be taken only in Imperial, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties.</p>	

Species	1. Seasons	2. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
<b>(C) Common Snipe</b>	The third Saturday in October extending for 107 days	<p>Bag Limit: 8 per day</p> <p>Possession Limit: double the daily bag limit</p>
3. Area:	Statewide	

**NOTE**

Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 203 and 355, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 200, 202, 203, 203.1, 208, 215, 220, 355 and 356, Fish and Game Code.

Section 600, Title 14, CCR, is amended to read:

§600. Licensed Game Bird Clubs.

No licensed game bird club utilizing domestically reared game birds may be operated in this state except under a license issued by the department and under the provisions of this section. Domestically reared game birds include only the following: Pheasants of the species *Phasianus colchicus*, including all ring-necked pheasant races, Indian chukar, domestically reared wild turkey, Hungarian partridge, bobwhite quail, Coturnix quail, and other such species as may be designated by the Fish and Game Commission.

(a) General Provisions for All Licensed Game Bird Clubs, Including Zone A and B Clubs.

(1) Licensed Provisions.

(A) Application Form. Application for a game bird club license shall be made on LICENSED GAME BIRD CLUB APPLICATION, Form LGBC 600 (5/95), which is incorporated by reference herein. Application forms are available from the Department of Fish and Game, License and Revenue Branch, ~~3244 S Street, Sacramento, California 95816 (telephone (916) 227-2274)~~. The application form shall be completed in its entirety and submitted to the ~~above address~~ License and Revenue Branch. The approved application form (LGBC 600) shall be kept with the shooting permit records for the licensed area and shall be open to inspection.

(B) Signing of Application. Applications shall be signed by the applicant. If the applicant is a corporation, the application shall be signed by any one or more duly authorized officers of the corporation. If the applicant is a partnership, the application shall be signed in behalf of the partnership by any one or more of the general partners. If the applicant is a person, doing business under a business name, the application shall be signed by such person accompanied by a statement of the name under which business is being done.

(C) Inspection Requirement. The department may inspect each tract proposed for licensing to determine if it is suitable for a licensed game bird club.

(D) Licensed Area. A licensed game bird club shall include the total area within the exterior boundary.

(E) Map Requirement for New Areas or Boundary Changes. Applications for new areas and those involving a boundary change must include a current 7.5 minute U.S. Geological Survey topographic map denoting the boundaries of the proposed area or areas.

(F) Transfer of License. The department may transfer a license to other land owned or controlled by a licensee if the land is located in the same county as the land specified in the original application, if the new land is suitable for the purposes of the license. A transfer of license may not require an additional fee but may require a department inspection to determine if the above provisions are satisfied.

(G) Proof of Hunting Rights. Applications involving lands not owned by the applicant must include written verification that the applicant has acquired exclusive hunting rights on the land in question for the total period of the license.

(H) Term of License. A game bird club license shall be issued for a period of one year from August 1 to July 31, or for the remainder of the period if issued after August 1.

(I) License Fees. The base license fee shall be \$280 for game bird clubs over 500 acres in size and \$210 for game bird clubs of 500 acres or less. These fees shall be annually adjusted pursuant to Section 713 of the Fish and Game Code.

(J) Request for Cancellation of License. A licensee shall request that his/her license be cancelled. This request must be made in writing to the department's License and Revenue Branch (see subsection (a)(1)(A)). The license fee shall not be refunded for a cancelled license.

(K) License Revocation or Suspension. The department may revoke, suspend or decline to renew a license for failure to comply with the provisions of a license or failure to comply with these regulations. Any person whose license is revoked or suspended may request a hearing before the commission to show cause why his/her permit should not be revoked or suspended.

(2) Posting of Area. Every game bird club shall be posted on the exterior boundary with signs of a size not less than 8 1/2 by 11 inches at intervals of at least three (3) to the mile and at all corners and entrances. The signs shall include the name of the club and the words: "private licensed game bird club or private licensed pheasant club--authorized under regulations of the Fish and Game Commission--no trespassing." These signs shall be visible at least twenty-five (25) feet from the boundaries of such club. The department shall not furnish such signs. Signs shall be removed prior to September 15 of the succeeding year if no license is granted for that year.

(3) Compliance Requirement. It is unlawful to shoot, attempt to shoot, or otherwise take any game bird on the premises of any licensed game bird club unless the provisions of this Section 600 have been complied with. The department may inspect the premises of each licensed area to determine whether or not the licensee has complied with these regulations.

(4) Shooting Permit Requirement. No person may hunt domestically reared game birds on a licensed game bird club without having in possession a valid hunting license, a valid upland game bird stamp and a valid game bird club shooting permit issued by the licensee or an agent authorized by the licensee (see subsection (a)(9)). The shooting permit shall include the following information: name, hunting license number, and date(s) permit is valid.

(5) Daily Log Sheets. Every hunter on a licensed game bird club shall sign in on a daily log sheet at the location designated on the license application prior to going afield in pursuit of domestically reared game birds.

(6) Shooting Records. Licensees shall maintain a record for each shooting day on forms supplied by the department, LICENSED GAME BIRD CLUB MONTHLY REPORT, Form LGBC 600B (5/97), which is incorporated by reference herein, and shall make entries on the record for each shooting day.

(7) Shooting Records Maintenance. Shooting permit records and other records required by these regulations shall be open to inspection by the department on shooting days at a designated site identified in the license application. During the balance of the shooting season, these records shall be available for inspection by the department from

the licensee or authorized agent. Records must be retained for inspection for a period of one year after the close of the shooting season. The licensee shall submit all of the LGBC 600B forms provided by the department showing the daily and monthly numbers of each species released and taken. The report shall be sent to the Department of Fish and Game, ~~Wildlife Management Division, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 (telephone no. (916) 653-2245),~~ at an address to be determined by the Department, within thirty (30) days after shooting has ceased, and the licensee shall maintain a legible copy of such record.

(8) Seal Requirement.

(A) Seals shall be affixed by the licensee, or an authorized agent, to all pheasants, chukars, and turkeys taken on a licensed game bird club area. Seals shall be applied immediately upon the hunter's return to club headquarters. Seals shall remain attached to the birds until they are finally prepared for consumption. Seals shall be supplied by the department at a fee of five cents (\$0.05) each. These seals shall be purchased and located on the club area prior to the taking of any released birds. Seals may be obtained from the department's License and Revenue Branch (see subsection (a)(1)(A)).

(B) Seals shall be affixed to bagged pheasants, chukars, and turkeys only. Seals shall be affixed only by the licensee or an authorized agent.

(C) The licensee must account for all used and unused seals upon request by the department. The licensee is required to destroy all unused seals at the end of each season.

(D) There shall be no refund of money for unused seals.

(E) Seals are not transferable and shall be used only on the licensed club to which they are issued.

(F) Seals are not required for domestically reared game birds other than pheasant, chukar, and turkey.

(9) Authorized Agents. The licensee may appoint authorized agents to serve in his/her capacity. An authorized agent must be 16 years of age or older. The applicant shall declare the intended authorized agents on LICENSED GAME BIRD CLUBS - AUTHORIZED AGENTS, (Form LGBC 600A), which is incorporated by reference herein, and post the form at the club headquarters for the duration of the season.

(10) Liberation of Birds.

(A) The department may require the licensee to deliver birds to the licensed area for inspection and/or banding. If banding is required the licensee or authorized agent shall remove all leg bands from birds killed on the licensed game bird club and return them to the department's Wildlife Management Division (see subsection (a)(7) for address).

(B) At time of release, all birds shall be full-winged and otherwise in condition to go wild. Birds that are altered in any manner which would, in the opinion of the department, render them incapable of surviving in the wild, or which are diseased, or show evidence of malnutrition, shall be rejected for release.

(C) Approval for the release and take of domestically reared wild turkeys will not be granted in areas where wild turkeys have been released by the department or where a population of wild turkeys exists.

(11) Shooting Hours.

(A) The shooting hours for taking domestically reared game birds on licensed game bird clubs shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset (pursuant to Section 310.5, Title 14, CCR).

(12) Conduct of Hunters. The licensee or authorized agent, of a licensed game bird club, may refuse to issue a permit to any person who in his/her opinion is intoxicated or handles firearms in a careless and dangerous manner. The licensee, or authorized agent, may also revoke forthwith the permit of any hunter who endangers the safety of other hunters, destroys or endangers property on the club or fails to attempt to recover crippled or dead birds which he/she has shot or violates any fish and game regulations.

(13) Laws and Regulations For Game Other Than Domestically Reared Game Birds. Game other than domestically reared game birds may be taken on a licensed game bird club under the laws and regulations applying to the state at large, including daily bag limits.

(14) Prohibition on Removal of Domesticated Game Birds Taken By Means Other Than Hunting. No game birds killed in any manner other than by hunting by legal methods shall be removed from the premises of any licensed game bird club. It shall be unlawful to sell or buy or attempt to sell or buy any domestic game birds taken from such club.

(15) Disease Prevention. Birds being reared for release by the licensee on a licensed game bird club or at an off-site location shall be maintained under conditions which are not conducive to the spread of diseases. Rearing facilities shall be subject to inspection by the department.

(16) Game Bird Purchase Records. The licensee shall retain copies of all game bird purchase invoices. A copy of these records shall be available for inspection during the license year. Information concerning the date and number of birds delivered shall be recorded on all invoices. All pens and birds may be inspected by the department at any time. A department employee may witness all releases.

(17) Use of Dogs. Hunters are encouraged to utilize retrieving dogs while in the field to assist in the recovery of downed birds. Hunters shall make a reasonable effort to locate all downed birds consistent with sections 203.1 and 4304 of the Fish and Game Code. For hunters without retrieving dogs, the licensee may provide dogs and accompanying handlers. No dog handler may serve as a guide and the use of dogs on licensed game bird clubs does not constitute guiding, as defined in Section 2535 of the Code.

(b) Zones for Licensed Game Bird Clubs. For the purpose of hunting domestically reared game birds, the state is divided into Zone A and Zone B. Clubs licensed in these areas shall be known as Zone A and Zone B licensees, respectively.

(1) Zone A Licensed Game Bird Clubs.

(A) Zone A Defined. Zone A consists of the following area: San Joaquin-Sacramento Valleys; within a line beginning at the junction of State Highway 41 and Interstate Highway 5 northerly on Interstate Highway 5 to the junction of Washoe Avenue; northerly along Washoe Avenue to California Avenue (Panoche Road); westerly along California Avenue (Panoche Road) to Interstate Highway 5; northerly along Interstate Highway 5 to the Delta-Mendota Canal crossing; northerly and westerly along said canal to the crossing of the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks (about five (5) miles south of Byron); northwesterly along said railroad to its intersection with State Highway 4 at Brentwood; north and west along said State Highway 4 to its intersection with State Highway 84; along said State Highway 84 to the Sacramento-Contra Costa county line on the Antioch Bridge; westerly along the Sacramento-Contra Costa county line to its intersection with the Solano County boundary; northeasterly along the Sacramento County-Solano County line to Cache Slough; northwesterly along the South bank of Cache Slough to Haas Slough; northerly along the south bank of Haas Slough to its intersection with the Sacramento Northern Railroad tracks; northeasterly along the Sacramento Northern Railroad tracks to Bunker Station; westerly along the Bunker Station-Binghampton Road to State Highway 113; northerly along State Highway 113 to Hawkins Road; westerly along Hawkins Road to Leisure Town Road; southerly along Leisure Town Road to Cooper School Road; westerly along Cooper School Road to Nut Tree Road; northwesterly along Nut Tree Road to Interstate Highway 80; southwesterly along Interstate Highway 80 to the range line between R1W and R2W; northerly along said range line to the Pacific Gas and Electric Pit Vaca Dixon electrical transmission lines approximately six (6) miles north and east of the town of Capay; northwesterly along west right-of-way boundary of the said Pacific Gas and Electric transmission lines to the township line between T15N and T16N; northerly along the west right-of-way boundary of said transmission line to the Tehama County line; easterly along the Tehama-Glenn county line to the Sacramento River; northerly along the Sacramento River to the Tehama-Butte county Line; easterly along the Tehama-Butte county line to U.S. Highway 99; southeasterly along 99E through Chico to the junction of State Sign Route 162; southeasterly along State Sign Route 162 to the junction of State Highway 70; southeasterly on State Highway 70 to the township line between T18N and T19N; easterly on said township line to the Oroville-Bangor Highway; southeasterly on the Oroville-Bangor Highway to Bangor on the section line between Section 27 and Section 28, T18N, R5E; south on said section line to the township line between T18N and T17N; east on said township line to the range line between R5E and R6E; south on said range line to State Highway 20; easterly along said Highway 20 through Smartville to the common boundary between Nevada and Yuba counties; south along this boundary to Placer County; east along the common boundary of Nevada and Placer counties to the range line between R6E and R7E; south along said range line to the township line between T11N and T10N; east along this township line to the common boundary between Placer and El Dorado counties; south along said boundary to the common boundary between Sacramento and El Dorado counties; southeasterly along said boundary between Sacramento and El Dorado counties, Sacramento and Amador counties, San Joaquin and Amador counties, San Joaquin

and Calaveras counties; southerly along the San Joaquin-Stanislaus county line to State Highway 4; easterly on State Highway 4 to Milton Road; southerly on Milton Road to its junction with Sonora Road; southeasterly along Sonora Road to Knights Ferry; southerly along the Knights Ferry-LaGrange Road to Warnerville; southerly along Crabtree Road to Turlock Lake State Park; southerly on Roberts Ferry Road to its intersection with Lake Road; westerly on Lake Road to Hawkins Road; southerly on Hawkins Road to Keyes Road; easterly on Keyes Road to its intersection with Cox Ferry Road; southerly along Cox Ferry Road and State Highway 59 to the Santa Fe Railroad tracks; southerly along the Santa Fe Railroad tracks through Planada and LeGrand to its intersection with State Highway 145; southwesterly along State Highway 145 to U.S. Highway 99; southerly along U.S. Highway 99 to State Highway 41; then southwesterly along State Highway 41 to the point of beginning.

(B) Shooting Season. The Zone A shooting season for pheasants shall commence on the Saturday nearest the 15th day of October and extend for 114 consecutive days. For all other domestically reared game birds, the Zone A shooting season shall be from September 1 to March 31 of the following year.

(C) Limitation on Pheasants Taken. At no time shall the number of pheasants taken on a Zone A licensed game bird club exceed 80% of the total number of pheasants previously released on the licensed area during the license year and up to 12 days prior to the season. Such birds must be released under the provisions of a current game bird club license.

(D) Daily Bag Limit. There is no daily bag limit for domestically reared game birds on a Zone A licensed game bird club.

(E) Unused Seals. Unused seals shall not be given to hunters.

(F) Headquarters and Travel Route. A headquarters building, housetrailer, or site for record inspection shall be maintained for each licensed game bird club during the shooting season. The location of the building, housetrailer, or site must be designated on the license application. No shooting permits shall be issued or birds taken until such headquarters has been established. When hunters, in order to travel between headquarters and the licensed hunting area, must travel off the licensed hunting area, the applicant must include in his application a request for an authorized travel route. Such route shall not exceed 10 miles. Firearms must be unloaded in conformance with state law while hunters are using such authorized travel route. The travel route must be included in the application and indicated on the map to scale required in the application. The headquarters and authorized travel routes shall be considered part of the licensed premises for the requirements of sealing birds, but shall not affect the gross area of the club.

(2) Zone B Licensed Game Bird Clubs.

(A) Zone B Defined. Zone B consists of the remainder of the state not included in the area described in subsection (b)(1)(A) above (Zone A).

(B) Shooting Season. The Zone B shooting season shall commence on September 1 and close on May 31.

(C) Release of Pheasants Required. Pheasants may not be taken on a Zone B licensed pheasant club unless domestically reared pheasants have previously been



released on the licensed area during the current license year. The take of pheasants shall at no time exceed the number previously released during the current license year.

(D) Limitation on Birds Taken. The total number of pheasants which may be taken on a Zone B licensed game bird club shall not exceed the number of pheasants released on the licensed area during the license year.

(E) Daily Bag Limit. There is no daily bag limit for domestically reared game birds on a Zone B licensed game bird club.

(F) Unused Seals. Unused Zone B seals may be possessed only by the licensee or a duly authorized agent.

(G) Headquarters and Travel Route. A headquarters building, housetrailer, or site for record inspection shall be maintained for each licensed game bird club during the shooting season. The location of the building, housetrailer, or site must be designated on the license application. No shooting permits shall be issued or birds taken until such headquarters has been established. When hunters, in order to travel between headquarters and the licensed hunting area, must travel off the licensed hunting area, the applicant must include in his application a request for an authorized travel route. Such route shall not exceed 10 miles. Firearms must be unloaded in conformance with state law while hunters are using such authorized travel route. The travel route must be included in the application and indicated on the map to scale required in the application. The headquarters and authorized travel routes shall be considered part of the licensed premises for the requirements of sealing birds, but shall not affect the gross area of the club.

#### NOTE

Authority cited: Sections 203, 203.1, 3000 and 3270, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 203, 203.1, 3000, 3270, 3500 and 4304, Fish and Game Code.